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Penn. avenue and F street.

Mr. McKinley was elected President of

the United States yesterday just as it was

arranged for in November.

Yesterday was the anniversary of the

birth of Alexander Hamilton, who will al-

ways hold a place in the front rank of the

world's greatest statesmen.

The Chicago Inter Ocean is the only Re-

publican paper supporting Madden for

United States senator. It was the only Re-

publican paper to endorse "Coin's" book.

The report that the President-elect has

asked senators to force the Cameron

Cuban resolution to the front is probably

true. Major McKinley does not care to

start out with such a legacy.

The able men whom the President-elect

has asked to take places in his Cabinet

should not decline and thus compel him to

take men who are not his first choice. Able

and trusted men in the Cabinet will inspire

confidence.

If signs are not misleading Senator John

Sherman would greatly gratify several

Ohio gentlemen by stepping down and

out of public life. But Senator Sher-

man is not in the gratifying business just

at present.

The minority in the House shows a dispo-

sition to waste time in unnecessary motions.

If the Popocratic combination should

conclude to adopt dilatory tactics they will

make it very important for the Republicans

to attend every hour.

The Princess Camerlain, or whatever

her foreign name is, announced when she

ran off with a Gypsy, that she cared

nothing for the opinion of the world, but for

a woman utterly indifferent to it she is

talking a great deal in self-defense. If she

comes to understand that the public is tired

of her and her talk she will perhaps keep

silence.

The negotiation of a treaty with Great

Britain, which pledges both governments

to submit all questions of difference to ar-

bitration, removes all causes of war with

the Nation with which the United States

has had most of its differences. There can

be no reason why the Senate should not

ratify it, unless it should be found to con-

tain provisions which have not yet been

outlined.

The veterans who have been dismissed

from the public service in Indiana were

chiefly in the pension agency in this city.

They were not turned out by the President,

but by Pension Agent Spencer upon the de-

mand of Indiana Democratic politicians to

make room for their favorites. This being

the case, Representative Hedrick should

amend the preamble of his resolution to

conform to the facts.

Speaking of the Pacific funding bill yester-

day Representative Henry, who was

paired on the measure, said that the whole

question was so shrouded with mystery

that it was impossible for inquirers to ob-

tain anything like intelligent information.

So long as the government is represented

on the board of directors members of Con-

gress should not be left in the dark as to

the best course to pursue.

Indianapolis is a city of conventions, but

the one now here differs from the most of

them in that the city is responsible for it.

The most of them naturally gravitate this

way because of the adaptability of the

place to their needs, but the plan of the

monetary conference originated here and

the call for it issued from here. There-

fore, the city stands more nearly in the

character of host than usual, and it be-

lieves the citizens to see that their guests

lack nothing in the way of hospitable at-

tention.

The statement of the representative of the

dry goods house of Marshall Field, of Chi-

cago, to the ways and means committee, to

the effect that the importation of all dry

goods is falling into the hands of foreign

manufacturers and merchants, is important

to the importers who have been free traders.

The foreign merchant and manufacturer are

able to do this because they can put a lower

valuation upon their goods than they will

give to an American importer, and this, un-

der the ad valorem system, enables the

foreigner to drive the American importer

out of the business. In time, under the

pernicious Wilcox-Gorman act, the foreign

importers will have their own jobbing

houses in this country and their imported

traveling men. Still, the theoretical free-

trader will continue to denounce those who

desire to repeal the tariff law which, while

it robs the treasury by fraudulent valua-

tions, transfers the trade of American citi-

zens to foreigners.

A correspondent seems to imagine that all

would be serene and all would be

made happy, should the civil-service law

be repealed. Can he distinctly recall those

days when personal influence secured the

appointment of the great body of clerks and

employees in the departments? Those who

had influence with congressmen obtained

the appointments, usually regardless of

qualification. The young man who had no

"pull" had no chance whatever. He may

have been just as good a Republican as the

successful applicant and much more com-

petent, yet he could not get an appointment.

The man who had the backing of the men

who helped to nominate the representative

got the place over all others. Now, any

person who is so unwise as to desire to be

a clerk or employee in the service of the

United States has the chance over all

others if he stands at the head of the list

certified by the examining board, and he is

sure of his position as long as he is com-

petent. Presidents Arthur, Cleveland and

Harrison and the most of their secretaries

have declared that the present system is

much better than the old. The correspond-

ent is mistaken when he says that the civil-

service law shuts the door upon the veterans

of the war. As a matter of fact, hundreds

of them hold places in the department at

Washington, in the postal service and in

all the large custom houses because they

could not be turned out when a change of

administration came. Even if the law were

repealed now few veterans could get places

as clerks, for the reason that younger men

would be able to secure the influence neces-

sary to secure appointment. If the civil-

service law had covered the pension agen-

cies three years ago, the veterans who have

been displaced by Democratic favorites and

incompetents would have retained their

places.

THE NEED OF MONETARY REFORM.

The necessity of monetary reform in the

United States grows out of the fact that

we have never had and have not now a

homogeneous national system. Our pres-

ent one has some of the elements of a na-

tional system and some excellent features,

but as a whole it is heterogeneous and has

inherent defects which, though they may

remain dormant for considerable periods,

will become apparent at critical times, to

the great detriment of the business and the

settling of values and the undermining of

public confidence. These defects in our

present monetary system are largely due

to the fact that it is the result partly of

war measures and partly of makeshift leg-

islation since the war, some of which has

been hastily conceived without much

thought of its possible effect on the sym-

metry of the system as a whole or its ul-

terior operation. As a result of this patch-

work policy, beginning during the stress of

war and continued under the stress of

financial crises or popular clamor, the

United States has the most heterogeneous

currency system of any civilized country

in the world. Fortunately, the different

kinds of money which it has resulted in

giving the people are all good and par-

tially interchangeable, but this is more due

to good luck and the unbounded faith of the

people in the unlimited credit of the Nation

than to the excellence of the system. That

it has merits is undeniable, and the system

should be retained, but it has also funda-

mental and dangerous defects which should

be got rid of. As one of the great commer-

cial nations of the world the United States

should not only have good money, but a

good money system. This, if the Journal

understands it, is what is meant by mon-

etary reform—not that the money of the

future is to be any better, dollar for dol-

lar, than that we now have, but that the

monetary and banking system of the coun-

try shall be reconstructed on lines ap-

proved by the best financial wisdom and

experience available and freed from defects

which not only impair its usefulness, but

from time to time imperil the business

prosperity and financial welfare of the

country.

GOVERNOR MOUNT'S ADDRESS.

By those people who judge the importance

of a State paper by the time taken for its

delivery or the number of pages which it

covers, Governor Mount's address is a re-

markable failure, but to those who read

the quality of a document upon what it

contains, the less than three thousand

words which the new Governor spoke yester-

day is one of the most suggestive and

practical addresses ever made to an In-

diana Legislature. The address is worth

two or three readings. There are portions

of it which the legislator who is separated

from his constituency and desires to do his

whole duty can read with profit if his pur-

pose is to do his full duty by the silent

majority which cannot attend the sessions of

the Legislature. One of these portions is

so important that Governor Mount turns to

it early in his address. It reads as follows:

"Conflicting interests will arise, urgent

claims will be presented, the disposition of

which will require mature thought, careful

consideration and prompt action. Some of

these interests will be of a legal nature, and

men who are skilled in all details of legisla-

tion, men who are conversant with the

constitution and the laws of the State, and

whose position is one of impartiality, are

powerful factors for good so long as they

are not influenced by party considerations

and are not influenced by the desire to

become more and more powerful in con-

tention of the public good. Such influences

are coming to be a menace to free govern-

ment. Corporations, trusts and combina-

tions, through lobbyists and other agents,

after their interests, while the mechanic,

the farmer, the miner, the business man

and the day laborer have no outside in-

fluence in the legislative body to exert

influence in their behalf.

There are those who regard the statement

that the Legislature is a "menace to free

government" as an exaggeration, but those

who have watched the contests in Indiana

legislatures will admit that it is borne out

by experience. If the contests were between

two private individuals it would matter lit-

tle, but it is a matter of fact that the most

persistent lobbyists in late years are those

arrayed to defeat legislation which the peo-

ple have demanded. The county officers' lobby

has been as regular as the meeting of the

Legislature. It has been given out that if

an attempt shall be made to curtail the pow-

ers of township officers it will be resisted

by a lobby. Two years ago there were two

powerful lobbies fighting over building and

loan association bills. This year one lobby

is alleged to have a powerful lobby in its

pay to enable it to fasten its grasp upon

the city.

What Governor Mount has to say under

the general head of highway improvement

admits of a wider application